

Attorney Docket No.: J3681(C)
Serial No.: 10/521,983
Filed: August 17, 2005
Confirmation No.: 1483

Without wishing to be bound by theory, the applicant believes that the reduced white deposits obtained with the antiperspirant compositions of the present invention is due to the particular morphology of the antiperspirant actives selected and their highly effective coating by the particularly high viscosity masking oils indicated.

Applicants incorporate herein their prior comments regarding Hall noting in particular that the masking oils exemplified by Hall are all oils of considerably lower viscosity than 10,000 mm²/s (claim 1 of the subject application specifying a carrier fluid comprising a masking oil of viscosity 10⁴ mm²/s or greater). With reference to the instant specification, Table 1 provides whiteness data for compositions that contained (1) an unmilled active (Examples A and B) or a milled active (Examples C and 1) and (2) DC 200 (50), a PDMS having a viscosity 50 mm²/s (Examples A and C) or DC200 (30,000), a PDMS having a viscosity of 30,000 mm²/s (Examples B and 1), both from Dow Corning. Attached are copies of data sheets from Sigma-Aldrich that give the refractive index for Dow Corning's 200 fluid of the identified viscosities. The 50cst and 30,000 cst products (centistokes being an alternate expression for viscosities reported in metric units of mm²/s) **are both identified as having a refractive index (*n*_{20/D}) of 1.403.¹ Thus, viscosity made no difference with respect to how closely the RI of the PDMS material matched that of the salt, and RI was not a variable in these Examples.** The compositions with either the unmilled active or the 50 cst PDMS all had relatively high whiteness scores, while the composition with **both** the higher viscosity PDMS and the milled active was found to have a significant and unexpectedly reduced whiteness.

It is respectfully submitted that Hall does not disclose or suggest the use of the high viscosity oils of the subject claims. Nor is there any teaching or suggestion

¹ By way of comparison, Finsolv® TN, one of the masking oils exemplified by Hall, is reported to have a refractive index @ 20°C of 1.485 (see the attached Innospec product literature). US Pat. No. 6645475 gives the RI of Silkflow 364NF, another of Hall's exemplified masking oils, as 1.4544.

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of the reduced whiteness afforded by the subject combination of milled active and masking oil as demonstrated by the data provided in the subject application and discussed in this and Applicants' prior responses.

It is respectfully submitted that the Action has failed to provide any basis for expecting that combining a high viscosity masking oil with a milled antiperspirant active would decrease whiteness. As noted in prior responses, conventional wisdom might have led one skilled in the art to expect that lower viscosity oils, which would reasonably be expected to spread more easily, might provide better coating of the active and, therefore, decreased whiteness.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the subject claims is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to our deposit account No. 12-1155, including all required fees under: 37 C.F.R. §1.16; 37 C.F.R. §1.17; 37 C.F. R. §1.18; 37 C.F.R. 1.136.

Respectfully submitted,



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